

2/12/92

Mr. William Celester  
Director of Police  
Newark Police Department  
31 Green Street  
Newark, New Jersey 07102

Dear Mr. Celester;

"20/20" is about to undertake a major investigation concerning the recent rise in RA/UDAA crimes, popularly known as "carjacking". It is a problem affecting those who live in large cities nationwide.

In speaking with Lt. Dughi in the Auto Theft Squad I was impressed with your department's success in employing various strategies to apprehend carjackers.

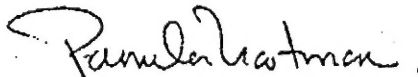
I would like to speak to you at your earliest convenience about your approach to this crime: why more car thefts are occurring with increasing violence, who are these "new" car thieves (who are not as experienced as professional car thieves), and how to combat them.

In understanding how these incidents happen we need the help of police departments like yours that has gained some success in fighting them. Newark is not alone in facing an offense that has begun to terrify average citizens across the country, who thought their cars (and their lives) were safe as long as they were equipped with an alarm or a lock.

I would like to explore with you the possibility of your Auto Theft Unit being a significant part of the story we produce to show how the nation's police are combating carjackers.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



Pamela Troutman  
(212) 456-6901